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TERRORISM PHENOMENON IN THE MODERN MEDIA SPACE

Introduction. The relevance of the current topic is stipulated by the fact that terrorism is one of the most difficult and dangerous phenomena nowadays. Today terrorist attacks have become increasingly rampant, and some researchers even claim that the world is entering the era of terrorism. It stands to reason that terrorism is a global challenge of these days.

Terrorism is the unlawful use of violence and intimidation, especially against civilians, in the pursuit of political aims.

The given research implies the view on terrorism as something that affects a society by means of information channels of the mass communication. The broadcasting media with multimillion audiences provide almost daily reports of terrorist acts at local and international levels. The majority of these messages are characterised by the prevailing spirit of strong emotions and great thrills. Thus, we must examine the relationship between terrorist groups and the media for better understanding of the mechanism to influence a society. Moreover, *the topicality* of this issue includes the study of the “manipulation of consciousness” impact, which consequently leads to pressure on everyone – from the level of the international relations to the nation in whole.

The phenomenon of terrorism in the media space has not received wide coverage by the scholars. Considerable empirical material has been collected recently. At the same time it should be noted that publications that focus on this issue are mostly of the general theoretical nature, they contain reference materials, but do not include clear descriptions. Moreover, the problem of terrorism in the media space is generally viewed by many authors in different ways.

The authors of the first group consider terrorism as a phenomenon that needs a detailed study. These authors offer their own-developed typologies, types and other elements of terrorism in general. The authors of the given viewpoint are: H.M. Dzhantaev, G.A. Drobot, K.A. Stepanova, B. Hoffman [1; 2; 3; 4].

The authors of the second group are engaged into interdisciplinary research of socio-psychological problems. They point out the problems in the study of the mechanisms and methods of influence on the awareness of terrorism as an individual and on society as a whole, emphasizing the need for further study of the phenomenon and the development of specific defense mechanisms against the effects of terrorism. The representatives of the second group are: N.S. Sedyh, V.I. Solovyov and others [5; 6; 7; 8; 9].

The sources of this research can be divided into the following groups:

- sources of international governmental and non-governmental organisations and institutions;

- summary information from news feeds;

- news information resources;

The first group includes the following sources of international governmental and non-governmental organizations as the *UN*, *NATO*, *OSCE*, *WHO* and others.

The next group includes informational resources like *Twitter*, *Facebook*, *Google News* and others. These information resources have many advantages, namely they are one of the first broadcasters that spread information, contain only spot news and relevant materials that focus on issues of global development, international relations and international political communication, terrorism and so on.

The last group consists of numerous news information resources. It involves TV channels, newspapers, online versions of magazines, news agencies, namely: *BBC*, *Deutsche Welle*, *The New York Times*, *The Moscow Times*, *Radio Svoboda* – foreign sources, and native resources like *Interfax-Ukraine*, *UNIAN*, *Mirror week*, *DailyUA*.

The objective of the paper is to study the reflection of terrorism, its phenomenon in the media space, determine the extent of the relationship with the media. To achieve the above mentioned objective it is necessary to solve the following tasks:

- 1) to give a full description of terrorism as an international phenomenon;

- 2) to analyse what terrorism is based on and results it leads to (e.g. radical and shocking actions);

- 3) to consider how terrorists use the media and the Internet;

- 4) to determine the social and psychological effects of the media usage for terrorist purposes.

Terrorism today is on a global scale. The old system of international security, which was created on the basis that the main players are the only two opposing sides, is no longer adequate in international reality. We have encountered the birth of a new international system, which is completely different, so we have to adapt to new standards and new players in the global world.

International terrorism can be defined as a well-established system of relationships among terrorist organizations, each of which has a hierarchical structure, channels of profits, funds and weapons. It is popular among some groups of population, and it functions on the international scene in favour of separatism and

decentralisation. Terroristic actions bear the character of a real threat to the lives because of their large-scale involvement and accessibility. In such acts even unaffected people experience fear, witnessing this phenomenon.

Shock, panic, guilt and horror belong to the psychological effects that occur immediately after a terrorist attack. Panic is one of the most prominent types of mass reaction and also a special emotional state that arises as a result of either lack of information or excessive surplus, which is found in acts of impulsive actions. No wonder, one of the most important intermediate targets of terrorists is to create permanent visual threat to public security, since terrorism is not personalised. It is aimed at the impact on the masses.

It should be specified that the large-scale study of psychological threat of terrorism was launched after the tragic events of 11 September 2001. The terrorist attacks in the United States have led to widespread anxiety throughout the world. These events have radically changed the understanding of terrorism and “international terrorism” in the minds of the international community.

In the process of information influence terrorist messages “experiencing in the communicative space a number of metamorphosis”, there is a growth of new values that extend the effect of the initial shares intimidation. In the cultural environment, produced by different mechanisms, we can find understanding of terrorist messages at various levels. For example: *a customer – an executor of the terrorist attack – the reaction of a society, fixation in the media – formation of mental stereotypes, myths about terrorist groups, their leaders and direct terrorist attacks*. In order to cope with the increased number of external and internal conflicts of the plan, the society should use psychological defensive mechanisms and appropriate forms of protective behaviour.

Conclusion. To sum up, we can say that information which society elicits from newspapers and magazines, television, the Internet, the radio, affects the system of psychological defense of a personality. Perception of information (which reflects violence) can cause negative emotional experiences in humans and may stay in the memory of an individual quite vividly.

Eventually, it is necessary to emphasise the importance to consider reactions arising from information perception by the society concerning terroristic acts. The mass media should be more attentive while drawing up reports in the spots of the tragic events and displaying them as a video, audio, and printed materials in reviews, and they should demonstrate their professionalism and be able to cover such a phenomenon properly. It is also crucial to reinvent the appropriate form of such broadcasting, which will help minimise the negative effects rather than their development in the society.

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CULTURAL STUDIES AND JOURNALISM

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KEY FEATURES OF A NEWSPAPER REPORT

Introduction. A newspaper report is considered a journalistic genre that necessarily includes relevance, efficiency, and accuracy of the documentary. Though not everyone approves this genre, nowadays it is one of the most favourite genres of the modern journalists. As efficiency and reliability become the main qualities of today's journalism, informational genres are gaining more popularity. The variety of reporting capabilities makes it possible to put the reality description into words as deeply as possible.

The objective of the paper is to determine and describe the key features of a present-day newspaper report.

The media actively uses around twenty genres, and the most popular among them is the *reporting*. It is explained by the peculiarities of the genre, which open opportunities both to the author of the text and the reader. The reporting genre is actively developing today. All classic newspaper genres are considered the foundation of the professional journalism, because the latter was originally based on the newspapers. They marked the beginning of the systematization of all journalistic methods of the reality reproduction.

The report attracts readers and potential audience, as well as journalists. The main advantage of this genre is that the journalist, describing the event, becomes a participant and an eyewitness of it. As a result, it makes the report an alive and operative genre in journalism, which tells about the event, witnessed by a journalist